

Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804 Phone 406-542-5500 June 1, 2012

## Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to acquire a 640-acre parcel (T17N, R16W, Sec 24) adjacent to FWP's Marshall Creek Wildlife Management Area northwest of Seeley Lake, in Missoula County. The purpose is to secure critical fish and wildlife habitat and to maintain compatible recreational opportunities and access for the public.

FWP will hold a public hearing in Seeley Lake on June 18 (Monday) at 7:00 p.m. at the Seeley Lake Community Center (east side of MT Highway 83, immediately north of the town of Seeley Lake) to discuss the proposed acquisition and take public comment.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP at the address above; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing Sharon Rose at <a href="mailto:shrose@mt.gov">shrose@mt.gov</a>; or by viewing FWP's Internet website <a href="http://fwp.mt.gov">http://fwp.mt.gov</a> ("Public Notices," beginning June 1).

Comments should be directed by: mail to FWP at the address above; phone to 406-542-5540; or email to <a href="mailto:shrose@mt.gov">shrose@mt.gov</a>. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 2, 2012.

As part of the decision making process under MEPA, I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP land acquisition proposals, and the Commission will be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its August meeting in Helena. Approval will also be necessary from the Montana Board of Land Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Mack Long

Regional Supervisor

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